We claim:

1.   A method for creating a protected region of a data storage device of a computational device, operating system data representing the operating system of the computational
5 device being stored on the data storage device, the method comprising the steps of:

    maintaining a record of operating system data accessed by the computational device after a reset of the computational device and until predetermined
10   functionality of the operating system becomes available; and

    establishing a protected and unprotected region of the data storage device, further comprising the steps of:

15   storing a copy of the operating system data recorded during the step of maintaining in the unprotected region of the data storage device; and

        storing a copy of any data stored on the data storage device in the protected region of the data
20   storage device.